# FluBytes



January 24, 2014

Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933

## SEASONAL INFLUENZA ACTIVITY

Influenza activity remained high in the United States, with 41 states reporting 'widespread' activity. Michigan continues to experience widespread influenza activity, the highest activity level.

## Michigan News

- Rochester Hills mom speaks out about daughter, 23, who died from flu
- 3rd flu-related death in Kalamazoo County
- Hesitant to get vaccine, youth still vulnerable
- Flu puts more southeast Michigan residents in hospital
- 6 flu-related deaths in west Michigan so far this season

#### National News

- CDC's FluView (week ending January 18, 2014)
  - 28 flu-associated pediatric deaths have been reported for the 2013-14 season
- Florida woman dies of flu shortly after giving birth

# AVIAN INFLUENZA A (H7N9) NEWS AND ARTICLES

The pattern of new H7N9 cases in recent weeks has strikingly followed the pattern seen last year as H7N9 reached its peak in the spring. 34 cases have been confirmed so far this week, including a 5-year-old girl. According to FluTrackers, the unofficial outbreak total is now at 238 cases with 57 deaths. More sporadic cases are expected with the increases in poultry production, trade, and transport in advance of China's Lunar New Year holiday season (beginning January 31). WHO says travel-associated cases could occur, but the threat of international spread is low unless the virus adapts for more efficient human-to-human transmission.

- Pace of H7N9 cases in China continues unabated
- WHO: Human infection with H7N9 update (Jan. 23)
- WHO: Risk Assessment Summary of surveillance and investigation findings (Jan. 21)
  - Age distribution in 2014 wave of cases not as skewed toward older age-groups
  - Case fatality rate not as high as 2013
- Shanghai says medical worker dies from H7N9 bird flu
- Hong Kong and Mainland China to launch H7 avian influenza serological testing

## **CHECK OUT THIS INFLUENZA RESOURCE**

 Flu & Children/Youth with Special Health Care Needs Media Toolkit

## RECENT EDITORIALS ON VACCINATION

- Slate: Growing up unvaccinated: a healthy lifestyle couldn't prevent many childhood illnesses
- Slate: Flu vaccine is safe for people with egg allergies: Why I vaccinated my child

## **AVIAN INFLUENZA A (H5N1) NEWS**

- CDC Travel Health: <u>H5N1 avian flu: First imported case</u> in Canada (Watch - Level 1, Practice Usual Precautions)
- Vietnam reports first bird flu death in 2014
- H5N1 found in South Korean ducks after 2-plus-year lull

## OTHER INFLUENZA-RELATED NEWS ARTICLES

- U.S. shortage of Tamiflu for children resolved
- South Korean wild geese test positive for H5N8
- American College of Emergency Physicians report shows
  Michigan with poor flu vaccination rates in older adults

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## **INFLUENZA-RELATED JOURNAL ARTICLES**

- <u>Fever-reducing medications may aid spread of influenza</u>, <u>study finds</u>
- Safety and immunogenicity of an inactivated quadrivalent influenza vaccine in children 6 months through 8 years of age
  - Results of a phase 3 trial show Sanofi's QIV to be safe and immunogenic in children 6 months-8 years
- Influenza A/subtype and B/lineage effectiveness
   estimates for the 2011-12 trivalent vaccine: cross-season
   and cross-lineage protection with unchanged vaccine
  - Vaccine much more effective against circulating flu strains closely matched to those in the vaccine than against those not as well matched
  - Vaccine effectiveness (VE) similar among recipient of either 2010-11 or 2011-12 vaccine alone, but VE was higher in those vaccinated in both seasons

#### **FLU WEBSITES**

www.michigan.gov/flu www.cdc.gov/flu www.flu.gov http://vaccine.healthmap.org/